

JONES PRODUCES HIS AUTHORITY

Statements Presented From Wellford, Jett and Chinn.

W. M'DONALD LEE NOW MENTIONED

Said to Have Recommended W. D. Cardwell to Represent Fishermen Against Wellford Bill—Mr. Jones Believes His Charges Fully Sustained.

Statements from R. Carter Wellford and J. W. Chinn, Jr., of Warsaw, and a corroborative note from T. A. Jett, of Northumberland, in reference to the lobbying charge made by Representative W. A. Jones in his Richmond speech on Friday night of last week, have been received by The Times-Dispatch from Mr. Jones. The Congressman says he thinks these statements completely cover and abundantly justify what was said by him in relation to the introduction in the Legislature of a bill seriously affecting one of Virginia's great industries.

Mr. Jones insists on the authority of the men he quotes, that Captain John A. Curtis, of Richmond, did state to his fellow-members that he introduced the bill in question at the request of W. D. Cardwell, referred to by Mr. Jones in his speech as a machine politician and lobbyist. The First District Representative further repeats that an effort was made to induce the fishermen's organization to employ Mr. Cardwell to defeat the passage of the bill, and that he (Mr. Jones) strongly advised against it.

Mr. Wellford states that he, with Mr. Jett, spoke to Captain Curtis on the floor of the House of Delegates about the progress of this measure, and that the Richmond member told them his friend Cardwell gave him the bill (this and another) and that he introduced both as a result.

The statement of Mr. Chinn refers to the employment of Mr. Cardwell to oppose the bill introduced by Mr. Wellford, by means of which was another measure. He says Mr. Cardwell was employed as the result of a recommendation made by Fish Commissioner W. McDonald Lee to the Fishermen's Association, to fight the Wellford bill, and that Mr. Cardwell was paid \$250 for this service.

Mr. Lee is said to have urged the employment of the former speaker because of the influence he possessed with the Legislature. It is further said by Mr. Chinn that Mr. Cardwell wanted to represent the fishermen on all matters affecting their interests, but that he was employed with reference only to the Wellford measure.

A feature of the discussion was the statement made yesterday by Captain Curtis in publication. He says that he has canceled all arrangements to attend the Confederate reunion at Little Rock, and will remain in Richmond to defend his honor against "the most malicious, unwarranted, far-fetched, un-Christianlike attack" made upon him by Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones, with the statements furnished by him, are as follows:

Mr. Jones's Letter.  
Warsaw, Va., May 10, 1911.  
Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Your telegram of to-day, informing me that you had "pleased to receive Wellford-Jett and Chinn for publication," has been received. In reply to this permission, I shall mail you these statements on to-morrow. It is now too late to send to to-day's mail. I think it will be admitted that I am completely covered and abundantly justified, what I have said by me in my Richmond speech in relation to the introduction in the Legislature of a bill seriously affecting one of Virginia's great industries. As subsequently explained by me, this bill was to prohibit the catching of menhaden fish in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, and was introduced by Mr. John A. Curtis.

I am also sending you a letter received by me from Mr. J. W. Chinn, a prominent attorney of the Northern Neck. Mr. W. D. Cardwell mentioned the name of Mr. Chinn in his statement, and this letter will throw some light upon the subject under discussion.

The bill introduced by Mr. Wellford, referred to by Mr. Cardwell, had no connection with the Curtis bill. It was introduced by Mr. Wellford at the request of several of his constituents, but was never favored by him. This was the bill for opposing which Mr. Cardwell received a fee of \$250.

It may be true, as Messrs. Curtis and Cardwell affirm, that the latter did not request the introduction of the bill to which I referred, but Messrs. Wellford and Jett, gentlemen of unquestioned veracity and the highest integrity, maintain that Mr. Curtis stated exactly the contrary to it.

It is true, however, that an effort was made to induce the Virginia Fishermen's Association to employ Mr. Cardwell to defeat the passage of this bill, and that I strongly advised against it, holding that the fishermen members of the Legislature did not need the assistance of any lawyer to defeat so drastic and so unjust a measure.

Very truly,  
(Signed) W. A. JONES.

Wellford and Jett Statements.  
Having seen the statement of Mr. John A. Curtis, which appeared in The Times-Dispatch of Sunday last in reference to a bill introduced by him in the House of Delegates prohibiting menhaden fishing in the Chesapeake Bay, etc., at the session of 1910, I desire to state that near the close of the session, in a conversation between Mr. Curtis, Mr. T. A. Jett, the delegate from the counties of Northumberland and Westmoreland, and myself, on the floor of the House, I remarked to Mr. Curtis that his bill

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VESSELS COLLIDE DURING DENSE FOG

Big Ward Liner, Merida, Sent to Ocean's Bottom.

ALL ON BOARD ARE TAKEN OFF

Wireless Calls for Help Bring Battleship Iowa and Liner Hamilton to Scene—Fruit Steamer, Admiral Farragut, Escapes With Bad Hole in Bow.

Norfolk, Va., May 12.—A near tragedy of the sea, filled with many thrilling narratives of human rescue and escape, occurred off this coast early to-day when the splendid Ward Line steamer Merida, bound from Havana, Cuba, for New York, with 313 souls on board, sank in thirty-five fathoms of water, fifty-five miles northeast of Cape Charles, after she had been rammed by the fruit steamer Admiral Farragut, bound from Philadelphia for Port Antonio.

Every person aboard the Merida was rescued, but one was seriously injured. This was the wife of commission land proprietor of Progresso, Mexico, who with his entire family was bound for Paris to await the end of Mexican hostilities. Mrs. Peon, occupying a room immediately next to where the Farragut struck the Merida, was crushed, and it is feared that she has suffered internal injuries.

Strikes in Dense Fog.  
The Merida was struck by the Admiral Farragut during a dense fog at 12:30 last night, after the liner had enjoyed a most delightful voyage from Havana with fine weather and a perfect sea. The collision came to the sleeping passengers like a thunderbolt out of the sky.

By means of wireless telegraphy flashed from the Merida, the battleship Iowa, which arrived early on the scene in answer to wireless appeals for assistance, and was standing by the Farragut when the steamer Hamilton left with the rescued passengers and crew for Norfolk.

The Admiral Farragut, which carried 1,000 passengers, whose name was not obtained, proceeded for the Delaware Breakwater, under command of the United States battleship Iowa, which arrived early on the scene in answer to wireless appeals for assistance, and was standing by the Farragut when the steamer Hamilton left with the rescued passengers and crew for Norfolk.

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Left in Darkness.  
The Farragut crashed into the Merida with great force, not only disabling the latter's engines, but wrecking her electrical dynamo and leaving the ship in total darkness, with her wireless apparatus also wrecked and the steamer helpless. It was the aid that the Farragut was subsequently able to herself give.

Fortunately, the Farragut also carried wireless, but when Operator Leach first attempted to send out a call for help he found his appeal could not be heard. The Merida's wireless, like that of the Merida, suffered severely and would not work.

While efforts were being made to call for help, the work of transferring passengers and crew from the sinking Merida to the Admiral Farragut proceeded. Among the passengers brought to the Farragut from the Merida were Perry E. Benton, one of the real heroes of the hour. Benton is an expert engineer, and it was largely through his assistance and knowledge of mechanics that the wireless apparatus on the Farragut was repaired, and Operator Leach was able to send out his call.

To send out his first call for aid. This was heard by the Old Dominion liner Hamilton and the battleship Iowa. Both of them were about fifty-five miles away, and the Hamilton sent an encouraging message, saying: "We will reach you by 5 o'clock."

Then the Hamilton and the Iowa began a race to save lives. The Hamilton won. It was just a few minutes after 8 o'clock when the Hamilton sighted the Admiral Farragut, and in half an hour was close enough to send word to the Merida.

The 329 souls were transferred from the Merida to the Hamilton in just two hours. The sea was calm, and the work of rescue, except for the fog and blackness of night, was easy. The Admiral Farragut showed signs of sinking, and Captain Jett, of the Hamilton, wanted to take off the Merida's crew, but they decided to stand by and carry the ship back to Philadelphia.

Thrown From Beds.  
According to the passengers on board, the lights on the Merida were extinguished ten minutes after the collision. There was, however, no excitement of a great nature. The passengers were thrown from their beds in staterooms and bunks below, but officers of the ship assumed control of the situation and calmed the fright of the women passengers, three or four of whom, having infants in their arms, rushed upon the decks in their night dresses.

The Merida was 417 feet long, fifty feet beam, thirty-five feet deep, with a displacement of approximately 10,000 tons. The vessel was only about five years old. Its tonnage was 6,200. Previous to the wreck last night the Merida had made splendid progress on its trip to New York. Wednesday 355 miles were covered, while on Thursday the Merida had gone 433 miles, making a total of 788 miles within two days.

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NO INTERVENTION; WORD GOES FORTH

Taft Authorizes Emphatic Denial of "All Foolish Stories."

NOT CONCERNED WITH MEXICO

Commerce Between Countries Not Interfered With, and De Facto Control of Rebels Recognized for Commercial Purposes Only—Neutrality With Collectors.

Washington, D. C., May 12.—Through Secretary of State Knox, President Taft to-day authorized American Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson at Mexico City to deny in the most positive terms "all foolish stories" of intervention in Mexico by the United States. Secretary Knox's telegram to Mr. Wilson, which also is to be made public in Mexico, was sent following a session of the Cabinet, at which the Mexican tangle took up much of the time.

"You are authorized officially to deny, through the local press and otherwise, as under instructions to do so, all foolish stories of intervention in Mexico by the United States, which have the sincerest friendship for Mexico and the Mexican people, to whom it hopes will soon return the blessings of peace, which is not concerned with Mexico's international political affairs, and which demands nothing but the respect and protection of American life and property in the neighboring republic. You will use the language of this instruction."

Commerce Not Disturbed.  
Legitimate commerce between the United States and the border country of Mexico now in the hands of insurgents will not be interfered with by the American government.

The intricate problem of international law arising from the Mexican border situation was discussed by the Cabinet to-day, and the general policy was laid down that there would be no interruption of trade which did not violate the neutrality of the States. No shipment which seems to relate to a military expedition or enterprise, fostered on American soil, will be permitted to cross into Mexico.

The State Department late to-day issued an official statement outlining the general policy referred to, but specifically stating that this government's course had no bearing upon the retention of the recognition of the belligerency of the insurgents.

Stripped of all technicalities the government's policy simply means that de facto control of the insurgents in the ports of entry which they occupy, practically recognized for commercial purposes only.

The question of preserving the neutrality of the United States is placed largely in the hands of the United States collectors of customs along the Mexican border, as a result of the recognition of all shipments.

Colonel Lee, who was instructed by Secretary of War Dickinson to-day to permit shipments of all character, which were intended for the custom house at El Paso to enter Juarez.

Echo in Congress.  
The killing and wounding of Americans echoed in Congress to-day, when resolutions were introduced by Representative Curtis of Virginia, and by the Secretary of War for information concerning the deaths of American citizens within twenty-five miles of the Mexican border as a result of the revolution.

The town of Pichucalco, in the State of Chiapas, sixty miles from the capital, was captured by the revolutionists, according to a telegram received by the State Department to-day from Consul Lippincott, at El Paso. The revolutionists compelled the agents of the National Bank of Mexico in Pichucalco to deliver some valuable funds, giving a receipt for them.

WARD WINS HIS SUIT

Engagement Token of American League, New York, May 12.—Edgar A. Ward, former captain of the New York National baseball team, won his suit for \$250,000 against the American League. The jury, which has been hearing the case in the United States Circuit Court at Richmond, rendered its verdict after deliberating an hour, and Johnson's counsel immediately moved for a new trial. The motion was denied, but the court finally agreed to hear arguments to-morrow morning. Although Ward sued for \$250,000, he appeared satisfied with the verdict.

HAS POE'S RING

Engagement Token of Famous Author [Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
New Haven, Conn., May 12.—The engagement ring of Edgar Allan Poe, the famous author, figured in the inventory of the estate of Mrs. M. M. May, den. filed in the Probate Court here to-day. The author gave the ring to his daughter, Mrs. May, who was on his way to visit Mrs. Sheldon, when he was found on election night dying under the steps of the Baltimore Museum in Baltimore in 1849. Mrs. May, who died recently, was a cousin of the poet. Mrs. Susan Moyer, of this city, inherits the ring.

PLACE FOR TOWNSEND

He Is Made Special Assistant to Attorney-General Wickham.  
Washington, May 12.—B. D. Townsend, former United States district attorney for North Dakota, to-day was appointed a special assistant attorney to General Wickham to represent the government in the suits brought to test the validity of patents to thousands of acres of valuable oil and mineral lands now held by the Southern Pacific.

Francis J. Heney, retained by private interests, which are also contesting the railroad company's title, will co-operate with Mr. Townsend.

WAR SECRETARY DICKINSON RESIGNS; PORTFOLIO GOES TO HENRY L. STIMSON



HENRY L. STIMSON.

PRESIDENT DIAZ READY TO EXPLAIN

Willing to Tell Rebels There Was No Hidden Meaning in Manifesto.

NO WORD FROM MADERO

Pending Reply From Him, No Further Steps Toward Peace Will Be Taken.

Mexico City, May 12.—General Diaz will not leave the presidency while the country is in its present state of unrest, it was asserted to-night by Finance Minister Jose Yves Limantour. He also said that Diaz stood ready to state in more explicit terms than those contained in his recent manifesto, if necessary, his attitude with reference to the rebellion.

He said, had demanded to know from his opponents the terms in which they expected him to announce his willingness to resign, and is waiting a reply from them. The President's declaration of last Sunday was made in good faith, and with the distinct reserve in the interests of the country, Mr. Limantour said. There were no subterfuges in his declaration. He meant what he said, namely, that he would lay down the reins of government when he could do so without danger that anarchy and chaos might follow his action.

Minister Limantour made these explanations to a representative of the Associated Press summarizing the intentions of the administration under the circumstances as they appear at the moment. He declared that following the issuance of the President's manifesto, and its reception by the revolutionists, a message was sent to Judge Carbajal, the government's peace representative, asking that Madero and his followers state in exactly what terms they desired the announcement of the President's willingness to resign.

No Hidden Meaning.  
General Diaz would explain, said Mr. Limantour, precisely what he meant by his expression "when his conscience tells him that he can do so without giving over the country to anarchy," and his hidden meaning would show that no intention of the President was intended to be taken.

This message as to the wording desired by the rebels should have been in Madero's hands for at least three days, but up to to-night no reply had been returned. Judge Carbajal will wait in El Paso under instruction to accept and transmit any further proposal the rebels may desire to make.

What was to be the next step to be taken by the government appeared to hinge on the receipt or non-receipt of a further proposal from the revolutionists. Nothing further was to be begun by government officers in the direction of peace conferences.

The decision of the American government to permit arms and ammunition to cross the border into Mexico through the regular channels of trade will greatly simplify Madero's task of arming the recruits whom he expects to flock by thousands to his standard on his projected march to the capital.

What the return of former Governor Reyes would mean to the country, the minister could not state. His coming was opposed by the revolutionists in the preliminary exchanges preceding the actual peace negotiations as "injuring into the situation a new political element, which tended to complicate it."

When Reyes left Mexico he was perhaps the most popular man in the republic.

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RECIPROCITY BILL MAY BE AMENDED

Senate Likely to Object to Measure As It Passed House.

WILL EXTEND FREE LIST

Farmers Continue Their Protests Against Agreement With Canada.

Washington, May 12.—That neither the Canadian reciprocity bill nor the resolution providing for direct election of Senators will be agreed to in the Republican Senate as they passed the Democratic House is the prediction which is being generally made around the Capitol. The talk of the legislative situation has followed the show of factional strife in the upper house yesterday afternoon, when the Senate became deadlocked over the election of a president pro tempore.

As to reciprocity, it is predicted that amendments will be adopted to extend the free list and to modify some of the duties on manufactured articles. This will come about, the prophets say, because of the support the amendments will get from the Democrats, and from Republicans from the Northwestern States.

Sutherland Amendment in Favor.  
In the matter of the direct election of Senators, it is predicted that what is known as the Sutherland amendment will be adopted. As the resolution passed by the House, control of the elections is left entirely with the several States.

The Sutherland amendment proposes that control of the times, places and manner of holding the elections shall be retained by Congress, such control, for example, as it retains over the elections of members of the House. Senator Bristow, it is understood, will move the substitution for the House resolution of a resolution which he has prepared, and a canvass of the Senate is said to show a majority of no Republicans.

The balance of power in the Senate is held by the progressives, and it is upon their attitude toward the proposed amendments to both the reciprocity bill and the direct election resolution that the predictions regarding amendments are based. Several of them will support the Sutherland amendment to the direct election of Senators, and, voting with the regular Republicans, they will give it a majority. Most of the insurgents, if not all, will vote for some free list amendments to the reciprocity bill, and are counting on the support of other Republicans from the Northwestern States and of plenty of Democrats to put them through.

Reciprocity Amendments in Doubt.

Doubts are expressed by some Senators, however, as to the amendments of the reciprocity bill. They argue that the Regular Republicans will oppose all amendments that propose to make changes in the Payne-Aldrich tariff, and that these Republicans can get sufficient support from Democrats to defeat the amendments, the Democrats explaining their votes against lower duties on the ground that the reciprocity agreement should go through untouched, and that they will later support a more general revision of the tariff, in line with the farmers' free list bill and similar products of the Democratic House.

Arguments Against Reciprocity.  
Canadian reciprocity would cost the farmers of the Northwest \$10,000,000 annually, according to A. H. Wilkerson, a Minnesota farmer, who addressed the Senate Finance Committee to-day. The price of American farm products would shrink that much, he declared. A vital grievance of the farmer, the speaker said, was that they were not consulted as to how they would be affected by the proposed reciprocity.

"Do you believe that a trade agreement would have been entered into that would have injured the Steel Trust or the shoe industry \$10,000,000 a year without consulting them?" he inquired.

To prove the opposition of the farmers of the Northwest to reciprocity, the speaker said, was that they were not consulted as to how they would be affected by the proposed reciprocity.

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MUST STAND TRIAL FOR CONSPIRACY

Demurrers of Chicago Beef Barons Are Overruled by Judge Carpenter.

SHERMAN LAW IS UPHELD

Decision of Court Ends Long Fight of Packers to Escape Jury Trial.

Chicago, Ill., May 12.—Ten Chicago meat packers must go to trial on Federal indictments charging them with conspiracy to control the price of fresh meat, in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. This was decided to-day by Judge George A. Carpenter, of the United States District Court, who overruled demurrers, in which the packers had held that the Sherman law failed sufficiently to define the offense it sought to prohibit.

The men, who were indicted on September 12, 1910, and are affected by the decision, are: J. Ogden Armour, president of Armour & Co.; Louis F. Swift, president of Swift & Co.; Edward F. Swift, vice-president of Swift & Co.; Charles H. Swift, director of Swift & Co.; Edward Tilden, president of the National Packing Company; Arthur Meeker, general manager for Armour & Co.; Edward Morris, president of Morris & Co.; Francis A. Fowler, director of Swift & Co.; Thomas J. Connors, superintendent of Armour & Co.; Louis H. Heyman, manager for Morris & Co.

Counsel for the government declared the decision was a tremendous blow at the packers' defense, and said the prosecution had scored at every point.

The indictments charged that the packers controlling the greater part of the meat industry were divided into three groups—the Armour, Swift and Morris groups—and that the three had a common medium of exchange of price lists and instructions through the National Packing Company. The indictments also charged that the three groups had an arrangement whereby each would not compete in territory belonging to another group.

Sustained by Highest Court.  
In overruling the packers' contention that the Sherman law was too indefinite and uncertain in defining the elements of the crime to justify the indictments, Judge Carpenter said:

"The statute has been the subject of decision for twenty years. The Supreme Court of the United States many times has sustained decrees which restrained violations of it."

The packers had based their demurrers, in part, on an assertion that the act did not define a crime, or provide legal and constitutional means of correcting the abuses it was designed to control. The decision directly denied this assumption.

They also claimed that the act did not define the misdoing in terms that would enable the defendant to know in advance that such performances as he condemned were illegal. Of this point Judge Carpenter said:

"I am of the opinion that the Supreme Court of the United States has determined that sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Sherman act, define with sufficient accuracy the offenses therein enumerated."

As to the stability of the indictment, the court said:

"The whole plan (that of the packers) as alleged in the indictment, and its inception appears plainly to be one to eliminate competition as a factor in fixing prices among the three groups of defendants, beginning with the agreement not to bid against each other, and, in fact, to bid exactly the same amount for like grades of live stock, fixing uniform selling price and dealing with fixing a uniform price of sale and an agreement among themselves of the total business done."

"I am of the opinion that the facts stated in the indictments show clearly a plan or scheme organized and put in operation by the defendants, the

Only Democratic Member of Taft's Cabinet Steps Out.

CHANGE CAUSES GREAT SURPRISE

New Secretary Is Defeated Candidate for Governor of New York and Friend of Roosevelt—Politics Being Played to Straighten Out Bad Party Tangle.

Washington, May 12.—Secretary of War Jacob McGavock Dickinson, of Tennessee, the Democratic member of President Taft's Cabinet, has resigned. Henry L. Stimson, of New York, recently defeated Republican candidate for Governor of that State, has been given the war portfolio. This announcement was made at the White House to-night and caused great surprise.

In the letters exchanged between the President and Mr. Dickinson no reason, other than that of pressing private affairs, is given for the secretary's retirement. The President will confer with Mr. Stimson in New York to-morrow or Sunday, but the new Secretary of War will not be sworn in until the return of the President to the capital on Monday.

Mr. Dickinson will go to his Tennessee home immediately upon the qualification of his successor. He expects to devote his attention to business, and will not return to the practice of law in which he was engaged when President Taft appointed him Secretary of War in March, 1903. He is the second member of Mr. Taft's Cabinet to retire to private life, Secretary of the Interior Ballinger having severed his connection with the President's official family only a few months ago.

Coincident with the announcement of Mr. Dickinson's retirement came that of the appointment of C. S. Millington, of Herkimer, N. Y., to be Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at New York.

Was Roosevelt Candidate.  
Mr. Stimson was the Roosevelt candidate for Governor, while Mr. Millington was a former member of the House from the Twenty-seventh New York District, and is a close friend of Vice-President Sherman and other leaders of the Old Guard in the State, having succeeded Mr. Sherman in the House when the latter became Vice-President.

In the new appointments, official Washington found food for speculation, and generally politicians thought they saw therein the first step of the administration to straighten out the tangled skein of New York politics.

No effort was made by the President to conceal the satisfaction with which he viewed the appointment of Mr. Stimson. Not only has he the highest personal regard for the incoming member of his Cabinet, but he is well aware that the appointment will be acceptable to a large fraction of the publican party in New York. While the selection of Mr. Stimson was made after only a few days' consideration, Senator Root and other leaders were consulted, and gave it their unqualified approval.

The position of assistant treasurer at New York, which has been given to the Sherman-Barnes-Woodruff faction, while not so important as that given to the Roosevelt-Parsons faction, is believed here to be a move in the direction of peace that will count for much in the future. Friends of the President were pleased to-night over the political outlook.

Find Other Reasons.  
Unofficially, Washington to-night discussed with relish the resignation of the Secretary of War. Unofficially, there were those who found other reasons than that given in his letter.

Mr. Dickinson is a Democrat. His presence in the Cabinet of a Republican President has not been looked upon with favor by some of Mr. Taft's political advisers, who were of the opinion that the office of Secretary of War should be held by some one of the President's own party, and also pointed out that Mr. Dickinson might prove a source of embarrassment, when the presidential campaign begins.

Naturally, Mr. Dickinson also found the discussion in the Cabinet of party measures often a personal embarrassment.

There were others who thought that Mr. Dickinson had incurred some criticism by his conduct of the war office. As was pointed out recently, there have been reports of friction over the Mexican situation between the State Department and the War Department. In some quarters it was asserted that Secretary of State Knox was being overshadowed by Mr. Dickinson and there were reports that the former contemplated resigning, but these met with official denials. There had been no hint that Mr. Dickinson contemplated retirement.

The President moved swiftly when he found that he had to select a new Secretary of War. On Wednesday night Secretary Hilles was dispatched to New York post haste. He met Mr. Stimson the next day, but the latter wished to consult with his father, who was then on the Atlantic bound for Europe. Mr. Hilles came back to Washington and Mr. Stimson resorted to wireless. His father answered, advising him to accept. Late this after-

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